

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday 05 February 2023

News from the IRTS

With the 2023 IRTS AGM taking place in Ballinasloe, Co. Galway, over the weekend of the 29th and 30th of April, the IRTS Awards Committee is seeking nominations for "Awards for Services to the Society or to Amateur Radio" and for "Awards to IRTS Members for Other Achievements". The winners will be presented with their inscribed trophy/shield in person at the AGM. Please send your nominations for specific awards to the Awards Manager, Jim EI4HH, by email to [holohaj2 /at/ hotmail.com](mailto:holohaj2@hotmail.com) no later than Wednesday, February 22nd. Again, with the 2023 IRTS AGM taking place in April, the 2022 Cup and Trophy award holders are asked to return their awards as soon as possible, so that the Awards Curator Mark Kilmartin EI4FNB can prepare them for the new recipients at the AGM 2023 awards ceremony in Ballinasloe. Mark will be present at the SEARG stand at the Limerick Clare Radio Club Rally on Sunday, the 26th of February and will be happy to accept returning trophies there. For anyone wishing to contact Mark you can find his details on the IRTS website. Cups and Trophies can also be returned to any IRTS committee member. Any member of the IRTS who is not receiving either of the society's magazines Echo Ireland by post or electronically or EI-News electronically is asked to contact membership officer David Gardiner EI3IXB by email to [irts_treasurer /at/ irts.ie](mailto:irts_treasurer@irts.ie) to rectify the situation. Members are also reminded to inform David of any changes to their contact details so he can keep the records up to date.

Radio Scouting Ireland

The IRTS are pleased to announce that Radio Scouting Ireland have been successful in their affiliation application. The IRTS are keen to ensure youth participation in the hobby and Radio Scouting Ireland are similarly focused on the same objective. Radio Scouting Ireland are affiliated with Scouting Ireland and the IRTS and they hold the key objective of using scouting as a platform to demonstrate the amateur radio hobby. To get in contact with Radio Scouting Ireland email [radioscoutingireland /at/ gmail.com](mailto:radioscoutingireland@gmail.com)

Limerick Clare Amateur Radio Club and Rally 2023

The LCARC Rally 2023 will take place in the Temple Gate Hotel, Ennis, Co Clare, Eircode V95 H0XK, on Sunday 26th of February 2023. The doors will open at

11.00am. The usual traders including Long Communications, AirMast, and MakerShop will be in attendance. LCARC welcomes the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group to the Rally. Tables can be booked by contacting Dermot EI2GT [dermotgleeson1 /at/ limerickclareamateurradioclub.ie](mailto:dermotgleeson1@limerickclareamateurradioclub.ie). Also, individuals can email Dermot if they wish to have a list of their items for sale published on the LCARC web site at www.limerickclareamateurradioclub.ie. On the Saturday night the IRTS Shortwave Listeners Club will be holding their informal dinner in the Hotel. Those wishing to make reservations with the Hotel for Saturday night can do so by contacting them at [info /at/ templegatehotel.com](mailto:info@templegatehotel.com) or telephone 065-6823300. Please mention the IRTS Shortwave Listeners Club when booking. Dinner in the Dining room costs EUR35 per person, Bar food is also available. The rally and the Saturday night event are open to anyone with an interest in Radio or associated interests. More information will be posted on the web site in the lead up to Rally.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group EI2WRC

The 2023 AGM of the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group EI2WRC will take place at 8pm sharp on Monday, February 27th, 2023. In the interests of public safety and to avoid a large physical meeting taking place and due to the ever-present risk of a Covid infection, the EI2WRC committee have decided to have the 2023 AGM on the Zoom platform. This will also be of benefit to our many members who live outside of the south east region. There will of course be a limited number of places available for non-members of the club to attend the online AGM. For anyone that is interested in attending you are asked to send an email to [southeasternarg /at/ limerickclareamateurradioclub.ie](mailto:southeasternarg@limerickclareamateurradioclub.ie) to express your interest. Places are limited and people will be allocated a place upon a first come basis and anyone interested is asked to get in touch to the above email before Friday, the 17th of February. The SEARG Twitter page has recently undergone a major overhaul and is once again back to its former glory with almost 3,000 followers. The Twitter page is now being managed and run by Siobhan Heaney from Co. Laois. Siobhan is an avid SWL and social media guru and in recent weeks she has been doing a live feed of the Tuesday night IRTS news bulletin read by EI2WRC members on her TikTok channel. Assisted with technical advice from Hugh EI2HI and Robbie EI2IP the live feed has reached out to licensed and non-licensed people all over the world with on average 200 people watching it every Tuesday night. For anyone that is active on TikTok you can find Siobhan's channel under the username 'TheIrishOutdoorCook'. A big thanks to Siobhan for taking on the Twitter account and also the Tuesday night live TikTok feeds. For anyone wishing to follow EI2WRC on Twitter please see twitter.com/seargnews. For anyone who wishes to find out more about the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group and their activities you can drop them an email to [southeasternarg /at/ limerickclareamateurradioclub.ie](mailto:southeasternarg@limerickclareamateurradioclub.ie) or please feel to go along to any of their meetings. You can check their website www.searg.ie and you can also find them on Facebook. You can also follow us on Twitter /at/ seargnews

YOTA in Hungary

The IARU Region 1 Working Group have announced that the YOTA Camp for 2023 will take place in the town of Gyo"r in Hungary. The event itself will be held from the 5th to the 12th of August 2023, and will host 100 ambitious youngsters from around IARU Region 1 and guest teams from Regions 2 and 3. The Camp is a great chance for Young Ops to sharpen their skills, meet likeminded amateurs and also experience the hospitality of radio friends from other countries. The IRTS are keen to participate and the Youth Officer Niall EI6HIB has already registered IRTS interest in sending a team in August.

Lough Erne Amateur Radio Club Annual Rally

The LEARC Rally will take place on the 7th of May 2023. The Venue is the Share Discovery Village, 221 Lisnaskea Road, Lisnaskea, County Fermanagh, BT92 0JZ . The Doors will open at 11.30, the entry fee is set at £5/EUR5 Sterling or Euro. There will be various trade stands offering equipment and components, the RSGB Bookstall and a WAB stand, the IRTS will also be represented. The venue is Disabled friendly, Breakfast and Lunch are available and bar open. To book your space please contact Alan at [argault91 /at/ gmail.com](mailto:argault91@gmail.com) or 07771 811484

Soldering Workshop

The South Dublin Radio Club will be running a Soldering Workshop at their Ballyroan Clubhouse, Rathfarnham, on Tuesday, the 7th of February, at 19:30. Jeffrey EI7IRB will facilitate the workshop. There is a fee of EUR10 per attendee. Due to space constraints, the number of places is limited. If you're interested and want to book a place, and for directions and transport options to our clubhouse please consult the club's website at southdublinradioclub.weebly.com .

Ham EXPO

The 46th HAM RADIO exhibition and the 72nd Lake Constance Convention, both organised by Germany's DARC, will take place from Friday, June 23rd until Sunday, June 25th, 2023 in Friedrichshafen at Lake Constance. The Informal International Meeting for representatives of IARU member societies will be held on Friday, June 23rd at 16:00, followed by an International Reception on Friday evening, details

regarding this event will be communicated in due time.

Contest Calender

Next weekend will again see busy HF bands, starting with the RSGB 1.8 MHz 160m CW Contest on Friday, Feb 11th, from 1900Z to 2300Z, for single ops. The exchange is RST, serial number and district code, non-UK stations send RST and serial number. Extra scoring points for the first QSO with each country outside of the UK should make it easy to fill the log.

VERON organises the worldwide Dutch PACC Contest next weekend, from 1200Z on Saturday, to 1200Z on Sunday. There are various categories of operators and equipment and modes. See www.veron.nl for details.

The CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest runs from 0000Z, Feb 11th to 2359Z, Feb 12th, on all non-WARC HF bands, a good opportunity to hone the rtty skills. This contest is run by the CQ Magazine, typically attracting over 20,000 rtty operators annually.

The Balkan HF Contest takes place from 1300Z to 1700Z, next Sunday just after 80m news, using CW and SSB on 40 and 80m only. There are only two output power categories, with either up to 10 Watt for double points scores, or up to 1000W. The Balkan HF Contest is organised by the Association of Radio Amateurs of Bosnia and Herzegovina, their website is at www.arabih.ba

The Propagation Horoscope

This week's must-read is again found on the website ei7gl.blogspot.com, written by John EI7GL. With the first signals soon to be heard from Bouvet Island, John looks at the propagation conditions we can expect, especially on 10m. After a fortnight of strong flare activity and capricious propagation conditions we have entered a relative calm period. The two continuous ribbons of sunspots produce only moderate flares and small CMEs, leaving us with a quiet geomagnetic field and a low kP index of 1 or 2, and a low proton count solar wind at around 450 km per second. Some moderate Tropo over the Bay of Biscay may liven up the higher bands, otherwise expect a low day-time MUF, barely reaching 15MHz.

That is the news for this week. Items for inclusion in next week's radio news can be submitted by email to newsteam /at/ irts.ie for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services.

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